

THE Library Journal

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

THE PROJECTED UNIVERSAL CATALOGUE.

BY WILLIAM E. A. AXON, MANCHESTER.

M. DANJOU, who was in the service of the Bibliothèque Royale at Paris, published in 1845 a small pamphlet, in which he suggested a uniform classification of all the French public libraries, to be followed by a general catalogue. For this purpose he recommended the compilation *à priori* of a universal bibliography of all writings published since the invention of printing. This inventory once completed, each library could place its own mark against such works as it possessed. He calculated that it would then take ten years, and cost 1,200,000 francs, to make afresh the catalogue of the Bibliothèque Royale, and that in less time and at a smaller expense a general bibliography could be brought to a successful issue.*

M. Danjou's scheme did not attract much notice. The project was next brought forward in an influential quarter. Mr. Charles Dilke is reputed to be the writer of some articles on the report of the British Museum Commission in the *Athenæum* of 1850.

Mr. Dilke's suggestion was that the compilation of the catalogue by Mr. Pa-

nizzi and his staff should proceed, and that he should have additional assistants "who shall, under his direction, consult libraries, catalogues, bibliographical works, and prepare, on the same uniform system, the titles of all works published in the English language, or printed in the British Territories, but not at present in the British Museum." Mr. Dilke further urged that "communications should be opened with the principal governments of the world, and a proposal made to each of them to co-operate with the British nation in publishing a universal catalogue; that each should undertake to have prepared, and within a specified time, on a common principle to be agreed on, a catalogue of all books ever printed, so far as known, by and in all the several nations and under their respective governments." Without going far into details, he suggested that "each government should print its own catalogue, and each exchange with the others stereotyped titles."*

Dr. Crestadoro has suggested that the British Museum should form a collection of the catalogues of libraries in all parts of the world, and that to this collection, made as complete as circumstances would allow, one general index should be printed. (p. 54.) He would include not only books but articles in periodicals, which in many cases are valuable treatises.

* I have not seen this pamphlet, and derive this information as to its contents from the new edition of Quérard's *Supercheries*, I. 526. The title of Danjou's pamphlet, which is pseudonymous is: "Exposé succinct d'un nouveau système d'organisation des bibliothèques publiques. Par un bibliothécaire. Montpellier, 1845."

* *Athenæum*, 11th May, 1850, p. 501.

On the still wider scheme of the universal catalogue he says: "When the whole question is reduced to a mere transcript of the title-pages, an universal catalogue not merely of the books existing in our National Library, but of all the books, so far known, that have ever been printed in any language in this country and abroad, might easily be undertaken, if England, France, Germany, and Italy, would combine. There can be little doubt but that the whole civilized world would rejoice to assist in the noble undertaking. The whole world would thus be converted into a single library, as it were; all its intellectual contents inventoried:—all these inventories incorporated into one universal index, which would then be the universal guide to the mental treasury of and for all mankind."*

The idea has naturally attracted some attention in the New World, and has been warmly advocated by Mr. J. G. Barnwell and Mr. B. Cadwallader in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*.†

Many minds are turning their attention in this direction. Thus there is the proposal of Signor Enrico Narducci that all the Italian state libraries should have a combined catalogue. To prove its possibility he has compiled the article on Boccaccio, and shows at one view all the editions of that writer and the place where they are to be found.‡ The Abate Mondino in like manner suggested at the conference of librarians that all the mss. in the libraries of Europe should be calendared upon a uniform plan.§

Sir Henry Cole was impressed by Mr.

* The Art of making Catalogues of Libraries. London, 1856, p. 59.

† See *JOURNAL*, v. 1, p. 55, 369.

‡ Di un catalogo generale dei mss. ed dei libri a stampa delle biblioteche governative d' Italia, a vella quale si da per saggio l' articolo Boccaccio. Da Enrico Narducci. Roma, 1877.

§ Transactions and Proceedings of Conference of Librarians, p. 162, *JOURNAL*, v. 2, p. 265.

Dilke's proposal and brought it under the notice of the Society of Arts in 1852, and has since renewed his advocacy of the scheme. In 1875 he issued for private circulation some specimen sheets,* which were submitted to the Prince of Wales, who has since referred to the Council of the Society the subject of the cost of producing a Universal Catalogue of all Books printed in the United Kingdom up to the year 1600. Sir Henry Cole proposes that the principal countries in Europe shall enter into a convention, each agreeing to supply a list of the works that have issued from its presses up to a certain date to be agreed upon, and in a uniform manner, "whatever may be the language of the books the titles would be given exactly as they are printed. Each country would publish a given quantity of the titles at fixed periods, which should be printed in the same type, measure, and sized page as the specimens, and, like them, on one side of the leaf only. It might be convenient if each country used a different colored paper, thus: United Kingdom, *red*; France, *green*; Italy, *brown*; Germany, *blue*; Spain, *orange*; Flanders, *neutral tint*, etc.; or print the titles in a special colored ink." The catalogue thus made would be arranged chronologically in long periods at the beginning of printing, and afterwards in decades or even years. The first section could extend to A.D. 1550. As the titles would be printed on one side only of the paper, they could be cut up and arranged with those of other countries, alphabetically,

* Specimen Sheets of a proposed Catalogue to contain the title of every book which has been printed from the invention of printing. These titles will form the basis of a general catalogue of the printed books of all nations, being indispensable to every great library, both public and private, as showing their contents and deficiencies. Printed by Spottiswoode & Co., New St. Square, London, 1875, 8°, 18 p. The name of the author is appended to the preface at p. 7.

chronologically, and according to subject-matter, or in such other ways as the exigencies of any particular library may require.

Such is a brief outline of the mode in which Sir Henry Cole proposes to attempt the accomplishment of what has often been regarded as a fantastic scheme, visionary as the search after the absolute or the philosopher's stone. The first question to be answered is that of practicability. If it cannot be done it is useless to inquire as to its advantages. Mr. E. F. Taylor, the writer of the article on Bibliography in the new edition of the "Encyclopædia Britannica," says: "The idea is now wholly chimerical, since the number of books surpasses all human calculation." Persons who have had a good deal more experience in practical bibliography than Mr. Taylor, have not shared this view. Mr. H. G. Bohn, whose wide experience is well known, says it "would be possible to register and describe under one alphabet every book known to literature, . . . and . . . such an object might be accomplished in a very few years."

If an international convention were signed, the work could be done in a comparatively few libraries, so far as the early literature of each country is concerned. There are not many books printed before 1600 in England which would not be found in the British Museum, the Bodleian, and the Advocates' Library. It may of course be said that with all care such a list would be imperfect. There is a certain flaw of incompleteness about all human efforts, but this is one which could apparently be brought to a reasonable degree of perfection. A skilful bibliographer would quickly pick out of the catalogues of the great libraries the materials requisite for this work, checking the statements of his predecessors by an actual examination of the

documents they had used. The proposal of Sir Henry Cole is, that each country should compile its own catalogue. It is possible that the work might be more expeditiously performed by an international commission, which should work its way through the great libraries of England and the continent. One additional advantage of this plan would be that the indications of the present location of books would be more numerous. The advantage of knowing where a book can be seen, is second only to the advantage of seeing it. In any case the possibility of the scheme is evident. From the catalogues of the British Museum and the Bodleian, and from the bibliographical works of Dibdin, Herbert, Ames, and Blades, we could construct a list of all the books printed in this country before 1600. What is possible for this country is certainly possible for France and Germany, where bibliography holds a far better position than with us. A universal catalogue completed up to the date indicated would probably be found so useful as to justify a further prosecution of the plan. For much of the literary investigation of the present day the books of later date are of the greatest importance. The literature of the centuries which watched over the cradle of the young Hercules of the press must, however, always have a great and an abiding interest. A complete and accurate account of the progress of printing, by its works, would not only show the "form and pressure" of those ages, but would mark the onward progress of one of the greatest agencies of civilization. Alike for what it would teach, and for the possibilities of further action which its successful accomplishment would suggest, the commencement of a universal catalogue should command the warm sympathy of all lovers of literature.

THE INDEX SYMPOSIUM AND ITS MORAL.

BY WILLIAM F. POOLE, CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY.

WHEN I wrote the article which appeared in the May issue of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, with a red flag for a heading, "The Plan of the New 'Poole's Index,'" instead of my own heading, "Some Suggestions on Indexing Periodicals," I little imagined that its merits or demerits were such as to make it the text for seven elaborate criticisms from as many members of the library profession. This sudden outburst of literature on the subject of indexing periodicals was to me a genuine surprise. For many years the subject has been a pet scheme of my own, on which I have worked almost alone. My best endeavors to interest other librarians in indexing periodical publications have, until recently, met with but little sympathy. Under the inspiring influences of the American Library Association, the work has been taken up by scores of zealous collaborators who are giving it their best energies. These new workers are not only entitled to the privilege of expressing their views as to the manner in which the indexing shall be done, but of having their opinions carefully and impartially considered by the Committee and the editors who have the work in charge. My only regret is that we did not have the benefit of their friendly advice at an earlier date.

The Committee on whom was laid the duty of preparing a scheme of the new Index reported a plan and rules for indexing one year ago. These were freely discussed, and adopted without a dissenting voice, at the meeting of the American Library Association held in New York in September last. I had therefore supposed that the general plan of the new Index was fixed. With this understand-

ing, the work of indexing has been allotted, and much of it has been completed. In the very extended correspondence with librarians who have been willing, under great personal sacrifices, to assume this labor, and with others who were interested in the undertaking, not a line had been addressed to me questioning the principles of the Committee's plan. The only criticisms I had seen or heard of were a strain of vague and anxious comments in the editorial columns of the *JOURNAL*, which favored some plan of classification. An article advocating a systematic or logical classification appeared in the *JOURNAL* three months before the Committee reported, but I have heard of no one in the library profession who seconded the suggestion.

It would be very singular if fifty librarians, who do not agree in the construction of their catalogues, the arrangement of their books, or their methods of work, should agree on the details of planning and arranging such an Index. If the enterprise were delayed until these details were settled on a basis which satisfied everybody, we should look in vain for the publication in this century. I am inclined to the opinion that the Library Association took the wisest course in appointing a Committee to consider the plans that might be proposed, and to select what, on the whole, seemed to them to be best. It will, I trust, be no betrayal of official secrets, if I state that up to this time the Committee have worked together with entire harmony, and there is every prospect of harmonious action to the end. I can say for myself, and I trust for Professor Winsor and Mr. Cutter, that the Committee will gladly receive from any

quarter suggestions for improving the usefulness of the Index, and will adopt such as seem to be real improvements and compatible with the general plan of the work.

The occasion which suggested the recent symposiac contributions, I conceive to be ; (1) The general interest felt in the undertaking, and the desire that the plan and details of the new Index shall be as perfect as possible. Nothing seems so perfect as that which is exactly adjusted to our own "personal equation." (2) The unfortunate heading given to my article, which made it professedly a full development of the plan, and a challenge for criticism ; whereas nothing of the kind was intended by me. It considered only a part of the plan, and was mainly a discussion of the comparative merits of an alphabetical and a classified arrangement, concerning which there now appears to be no disagreement. The reader, taking his cue from the heading, might well exclaim, "Is this all?" and conclude that I had very meagre conceptions of the work undertaken. The heading was the general editor's, and for changing mine for one of his own, he has (p. 146) made a satisfactory apology. (3) Some incidental remarks of mine concerning classification, cross-references, and the average intelligence of persons who use such an index, which were understood as implying more than I expressed or intended to express. If I had supposed that my words were to be so critically scanned, I should have written more cautiously, and made myself understood. I doubt whether my meaning would have been missed, had my article appeared under its original heading. In the course of this paper I hope to make myself understood on the matters of classification, cross-references, and other topics where my views have been misjudged.

Several of the symposiasts have written

as if the details of the old edition were the subject under consideration, rather than the plan of the new edition. The first of the Committee's rules for indexing is this : "The general plan of the edition of 1853 will be followed, except as it is herein modified." In my article appeared this sentence : "... but it was believed, if the general plan adopted in the earlier edition, and the new rules were carefully studied, that the practical doubts and difficulties would be reduced to the minimum." The "general plan" here mentioned is one thing, and the execution of the details of that plan, which depends on the knowledge, experience, and skill of the indexer, is quite another thing. It was the former that was to be followed, and not the anomalies and imperfections which appear in the latter. The "general plan" of the former edition made it an index of subjects and not of authors ; an alphabetical and not a classified index ; tales, poetry, and plays were placed under their titles and not under their authors ; critical notices of the same were placed under the names of their authors and not under their titles ; the name of the writer of the article, when known, was to be put in parentheses, etc. That this "general plan" was imperfectly carried out in the former edition, no one is so conscious of as myself. The work was done thirty years ago, when there was no American Library Association, no *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, no "Index Symposium," and when bibliothecal science, in this country at least, was almost unknown. I commenced the work to meet a local want, when I had less than three months of library experience, and with no idea that it would ever be worth printing. I had no one to consult with as to methods, and no model to guide me. For a year or more I plodded on, feeling my way in the dark, frequently throwing aside all I had done

and beginning again, and having only such time to give to the work as I could save from my college studies. It is easy for a person in this day, when so much has been written about catalogues, to sit in his stuffed office-chair and write learnedly about indexing; but if he were brought, as I was, to grapple with the perplexing realities of practical indexing, he would doubtless confess, as I did, that he knew but little about it.

After the publication of the first edition in 1848, I again remodelled the scheme and began the work anew; but I had not even then the bibliographical training and experience to carry out consistently the general plan I had constructed. I was content to do as well as I could. "If the preparation of this work," I said in the preface, "had been delayed until a plan had been fixed upon, which reconciled all objections, it would never have been commenced; and if the labor had been continued until the work was satisfactory to myself, it would never have been presented to the public." The many appreciative recognitions of the merits of the work which I have received, and charitable blindness for its faults, have been among the most pleasant incidents of my experience. These kind recognitions, the information I acquired, and the consciousness that I had done some honest work which had benefited others, are all the compensation I ever received for my labor. Since then I hope I have learned something of the science of bibliography, and expect now to do better work than I did then.

When attending the Conference of English librarians in London last autumn, I presented a letter of introduction to Sampson Low, Esq., the venerable compiler and publisher of the "English Catalogue of Books" and their indexes. He received me very cordially and spoke in very earnest and complimentary terms of

the value of my Index. "I hear," he said, "that you, with the help of the American librarians, are about to bring out a new edition. Take, my friend, the advice of a man eighty-six years of age, who has spent his life in making catalogues and indexes. Don't change the plan of your Index, or allow your American friends to change it. It is the best that was ever made. I have used the Index ever since it was issued, and am sure the plan cannot be improved, and may be injured." He then ran over the main features of the general plan, comparing them with other systems, and illustrating his meaning from a copy of the Index, which he kept among his working books.

With these general remarks I must hurry on to garner up the lessons of wisdom which constitute the *Moral of the Symposium*.

Mr. Noyes opens the discussion with a plea in favor of the adoption of the scheme which is a compromise between a classified and alphabetical arrangement, and of which he is the author. He would engraft upon the Committee's alphabetical plan, "some element of classification," the limits of which he does not precisely define. He would throw into groups, under a general heading, like Political Economy, the references to subordinate topics, such as free-trade, money, value, banking, finance, currency, etc., with cross-references from each in the alphabetical arrangement. If Political Economy, which alone he mentions, is to be treated in this manner, there is no logical reason why every other department of knowledge should not be treated in the same way, and the result would be practically a classified index, with an alphabetical arrangement of general headings. He would place tales, poems, and plays under Fiction, Poetry, and Drama. He does not state what other general

headings he would make, but we may infer his "personal equation" from the elaborate catalogue of the Brooklyn Library Association, which he has in preparation. In that work he places the lives of persons under Biography, and the history, description, statistics, etc., of nations, cities, and towns under Countries. We find the writings of John Quincy Adams under his name in the alphabetical order; but his *Memoirs and Diary*, edited by his son, we find under Biography. The catalogues of the Boston Public Library will be found under the general heading Countries, the last heading a person would think of who had not made himself familiar with the plan of the catalogue. Here comes in the practical objection to every classified or semi-classified system in a manual of ready reference. The system must be studied before the manual can be used. Readers who go to it for a specific purpose will not take this trouble, and it ought not to be required of them. A simple alphabetical arrangement requires no preliminary study, and supplemented liberally with cross-references, in my opinion, best meets the average wants of readers and the views of the library profession. The portion of Mr. Noyes's catalogue which I have received, I prize very highly, especially for the many references he gives to the contents of periodicals, miscellanies, and collected works. By placing the lives of persons and the names of countries and cities in the alphabetical arrangement, his scheme would be improved even if the general subject-headings were retained. Nobody cares to see a list of the names of persons whose lives have been written; nor, when looking for England under Countries, is one edified by finding "Elizabeth, N. J.," in close juxtaposition.

Mr. Noyes misunderstands my meaning when I stated that "classification is

expressly forbidden." I used the word "classification" as meaning an arrangement in classes, in distinction from an alphabetical arrangement—that articles about horses and dogs should not be placed under Natural History or Zoology. He understood me to mean that articles upon "Substitution of Similars" and "Quantification of the Predicate" are to be placed under the most specific heading. This was not my meaning. I should place these articles as he would, under Logic, and should not regard my doing so as an act of classification. Logic is really the subject treated, and is the heading where the articles would naturally be looked for. An article on "Quadratic Equations," I should put under Algebra. If these specific subjects were often treated, and had a recognized literature of their own, they would have their own headings. In the preface of the former edition I stated that my practice was to give an article the heading "under which I supposed the reader would be most likely to look for it." Though my present judgment as to what that heading should be may not be the same as then, it is a good rule for me to act upon to-day. We cannot do better work than that which our best judgment at the time approves. This may be called "the rule of the thumb"; but it is better than being consistent with some arbitrary rule, and putting the reference where it will not be found. This is what I understand Professor Winsor to mean by "variations to meet palpable convenience."

Mr. Noyes does not understand why the rules require that critical notices and reviews of imaginative writings should be placed under the names of the authors reviewed, while imaginative writings themselves are placed under their titles. It is desirable that the critical reviews of the author's writings should be brought together, that they may be used for investi-

gating the characteristics and literary merits of the author. The writers of imaginative articles in the magazines are generally unknown, and it is well to treat this class of articles, even if the authors are known, as other classes of articles are treated.

Professor Winsor's opinions so nearly accord with my own that there is little for me to say concerning them. "I am firmly," he says, "for an alphabetical arrangement primarily; but with variations to meet palpable convenience. A classified system, or the mongrel alphabetico-classed system, as it is called, is practically a nuisance. . . . It is doubtful if a primarily classed system, with an alphabetical graft upon it, is not a case of confusion worse confounded."

Mr. Perkins writes a pleasant paper full of practical suggestions, which I hope will ripen into fruition under his own hand. He does not press their adoption in the new edition, or intimate that the work will be a failure unless they are adopted. He says: "It is plain enough that my conclusion about the new Index is, that it is to be a great improvement on the previous editions; that it is going to embody much of just what I should have wished to put into it; and that if it could be improved further it would be by adjusting it a little more according to my 'personal equation.'"

Mr. Perkins' suggestions apply as well to the preparation of a dictionary catalogue as to an index of subjects. He would like to see drafted a classification of knowledge—some modification of Brunet's system—as complete as may be, for cataloguing purposes, and which can be used as a chart. In case the cataloguer is in doubt as to the subject-heading, the chart will decide. The work I am confident would develop into a goodly-sized vol-

ume, and would be most helpful in using, as well as constructing, dictionary catalogues and alphabetical indexes. Mr. Perkins is the man of all others to make it. I must tender him my sincere thanks for not suggesting that I ought to do this preliminary work, as if my hands were not already full.

Mr. Whitney makes a plea for a more generous introduction of cross-references than were contained in the former edition, and his views are in accord with those of the Committee and the editors. Mr. Whitney thinks that in the May issue of the *JOURNAL* I spoke of cross-references "with an apparent slight appreciation of their importance," and overrated the intelligence of readers. On these points I perhaps wrote incautiously, and hence was misunderstood. I did not insert the qualifying clauses, or explain fully the idea that was in my mind, not expecting that my words would be so carefully weighed. It is now too late to supply the hiatus, but it is time to say that the editors propose to introduce in the new edition a generous amount of cross-reference—quite enough to satisfy Mr. Whitney—and to make the path of the reader as easy as possible. This plan was decided on at the beginning, and its substance is expressed in the Committee's report. We shall make an entire rearrangement of the matter of the former edition, and shall eliminate many obvious defects in its arrangement. Several English serials, which before were indexed from the American editions, I have reindexed from the original editions. An earnest endeavor is being made to ascertain the writers of anonymous articles, and with much success. After all we do for the reader there is a wide margin left on which he may exercise his intelligence in helping himself. I hope this remark will not be again misunderstood. The

full benefits of Professor Abbot's Harvard College Catalogue, that of the Boston Athenæum, or of the Brooklyn Library Association, cannot be reached without the exercise of a good deal of intelligence on the part of the reader. I hope it will not be deemed heresy to say as much for the new Index.

Mr. Fletcher's contribution to the symposium was written without consultation with me—as it was not possible in the brief time that was allowed him—and hence expresses his individual opinions. The numerous points he touched upon in his short article did not give him an opportunity to express his views fully, and hence he, as well as myself, may have been misunderstood. In this discussion I find that our meaning is inferred more from what we do *not* say, than from what we do express. Mr. Fletcher is giving the subject his zealous attention, and as I read his article I understand his opinions to be, as I know his work is, in harmony with the views of the Committee and myself.

Mr. Cutter's contribution is the most elaborate and carefully considered paper in the series. He defends an alphabetical arrangement against all classified systems, because it best meets the wants of nine-tenths of the persons who will use it. A systematically classified index he regards as out of the question. He objects to any radical change in the general plan of the former edition, for "the work would no longer be *Poole's* Index, which is what we undertook to complete." He looks with some favor upon the theoretical merits of two alphabetico-classed systems which have been proposed; but he would like to see the project of their execution tried by somebody else. He would not envy the editor. "I fear," he says, "his choice of classes would not suit anybody, not even

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himself; and I am sure that those who used the Index would often be perplexed by doubt whether any given subject was subordinated or treated independently." Separate entries under Fiction, Poetry, and Drama he regards as of very doubtful expediency.

Retaining the general plan of the old Index, the details ought to be improved. He specifies four defects that ought to be remedied: "(a) the entry of precisely similar subjects under several different heads; (b) the failure, with trifling exceptions, to refer from one of these heads to the other or others; (c) the failure to assist the inquirer by suggesting other headings of a similar character under which a man might find matter to his purpose; (d) the occasional failure to enter in full, or by reference, articles treating of two subjects, or likely to be sought under either of two names, under both of the headings."

If I were to draw up such a bill of exceptions, it would be a longer one than Mr. Cutter's. The man who is to make a perfect catalogue or index is not yet born. While fully admitting the justness of his general criticism on work I did many years ago, I must question the fitness of the illustrations he gives in his notes (p. 150). He instances, under "(a)," Gardening, Horticulture, and Landscape Gardening as "precisely similar subjects;" also Insects and Entomology, Fishes and Ichthyology, etc. Now Gardening and Horticulture are obviously synonyms; but is Landscape Gardening a "precisely similar subject"? I should place the first two under one heading, and make a cross-reference from the other; but Landscape Gardening, "the art of laying out grounds, arranging trees, shrubbery," etc., I should put under a separate heading. I should have the best authority, if I needed any, for so doing, and even for putting these

three "precisely similar subjects" under three separate headings. Mr. Cutter, in his *Boston Athenæum Catalogue* (p. 1103), has Gardening, with thirty-nine titles, and no cross-reference to Horticulture; and on p. 1452 has Horticulture, with sixty-nine titles, and no cross-reference to Gardening. Thirty-seven of the titles under Gardening are repeated in full under Horticulture. To Landscape Gardening he gives a separate heading.

Again, Fishes and Ichthyology are not "precisely similar subjects." They both relate to the same subject—fishes; but the latter is "the science of the systematic arrangement or classification of fishes." Fishes are caught, eaten, talked about, and written about without any regard to the science of their structure or their systematic arrangement. There is a propriety in recognizing this distinction, and using in a popular index both terms as headings, with cross-references from one to the other. If only one heading was to be used I should prefer, for our purpose, to use the popular term Fishes, which covers the whole ground, and everybody understands its meaning. Mr. Cutter uses only the scientific term, Ichthyology, as a heading. Fish-breeding, on which there is a good deal of popular literature, he puts under Pisciculture, and fishing under Angling, which is only one kind of fishing. The same principles apply to Animals and Zoology, Birds and Ornithology, Butterflies and Lepidoptera, Insects and Entomology, Shells and Conchology, etc. Even the scientific writers generally prefer to use the popular term in the titles of their books. Thus we have Yarrell's "British Fishes," Gould's "Birds of Europe," Packard's "Guide to the Study of Insects," Humphreys' and Westwood's "Butterflies of Great Britain."

Mr. Bowker's contribution to the

Symposium appears in the editorial columns of several late issues of the *JOURNAL*. If he had been a practical librarian he could not have been more interested in the subject under discussion, or more didactic in his style. My paper is already so extended that I will not undertake to review his opinions except in the matter of "Cemeteries," which he has twice brought forward as an illustration of his method of reducing the number of headings. He would treat burial-grounds, cemeteries, churchyards, and graveyards as synonyms, and selecting one, say Cemeteries, would place all references to these topics under that heading and make cross-references from the others. If they were strictly synonyms, I might concur in his opinion. But are they synonyms, except in a philological sense? They are all places for the burial of the dead—so are catacombs, crypts, mausoleums, sepulchres, and tombs—but are they equivalent and convertible terms? Burial-grounds and graveyards in America are the common or public places of interment, and these terms are used in England when treating sanitary questions, as that relating to intra-mural burial. Churchyard is the English term for the common burial-place. Cemeteries in America are private or corporate places for burial, laid out with a view of developing the best effects of landscape gardening, ornamented with statuary and elaborate sepulchral decorations, of which Mount Auburn, Greenwood, Spring Grove, and Rosehill are types. A paper on cemeteries would treat largely of landscape gardening, forestry, sepulchral and decorative art. A paper on a burial-ground in New England would be a genealogical record of inscriptions from tombstones; and one on English churchyards would be made up of curious epitaphs, historical and biographical notes, with a large infusion of sentiment. Practically

these terms are related, but are not synonymous. Caroline Southey's "Chapter on Churchyards" and Gray's *Elegy* would not be improved by changing their titles to "Chapters on Burial-Grounds," and "Elegy written in a Country Graveyard." There can be no valid objection in using for headings such terms as the authors themselves considerably use, and connecting those which are related by cross-references. This is what I understood Mr. Fletcher to mean. The practice of the best cataloguers favors this rule; and Mr. Bowker can find no instance where his rule is carried out in a strictly alphabetical or dictionary catalogue or index. The Boston Public Library (Bates Hall) Catalogue, 1861, has these headings: (a) Cemeteries; (b) Catacombs; (c) Churchyards; (d) Epitaphs; (e) Monuments; (f) Sepulchral Monuments. It has for cross-references under (a) Catacombs, Churchyards, Sepulchral Monuments; under (b) Cemeteries; under (c) Cemeteries, Sepulchral Monuments; under (d) Boston, Cambridge, Inscriptions, United States; under (e) Sepulchral Monuments; and under (f) Epitaphs, Monuments.

In the first two volumes of Mr. Cutter's catalogue which I have (including the letter H), he has the following headings: (a) Burial, eighteen titles; (b) Cemeteries, two titles, ten addresses (using the term in the limited sense I have attached to it); (c) Churchyards, two titles; (d) Cremation, two titles; (e) Catacombs, nine titles; (f) Epitaphs, ten titles; (g) Funerals, four titles; (h) Graveyards, no titles, but with cross-reference to cemeteries, under which nothing about graveyards appears. His cross-references are as follows: under (a) Cemeteries, Churchyards, Cremation, Funerals, Monuments; under (b) Burial, Catacombs, Churchyards, Epitaphs, Greenwood, Kensal Green, Mount Auburn, Père la Chaise,

San Callistro, Woodlawn; under (c) Cemeteries, Funerals, Inscriptions, Monuments; under (d) none; under (e) none; under (f) fourteen, chiefly names of places; and under (g) Anne, daughter of George II., Frederick Henry, Prince of Orange. He has no heading Burial-Grounds, and yet under Boston he has three works descriptive of the "burial grounds" of that city, which are not included or referred to under Cemeteries or any of the above headings, except Epitaphs, where there is a cross-reference to Boston. They are, however, inserted alphabetically under their local names, as "Copp's Hill Burial-Ground," "Granary Burial-Ground," and (I presume, though that portion of the catalogue is not before me), "King's Chapel Burial-Ground."

It is one thing for a cataloguer to make subject-headings from the titles of books, which usually have sharp outlines, and if these do not explain themselves, their meaning can be gathered from the book—and it is something different for the editors to arrange in the best manner the uncertain titles of review and magazine articles which some one else has prepared.

An immense burden of labor and responsibility has been laid upon the editors of the new Index. The confidence and sympathy of the collaborators and of the library profession will lighten this burden. The editors have time to be instructed and encouraged, but have no time for controversy. Professor Winsor, in a letter just received, writes: "The more I see of the work as it goes on here, the more I feel that the task you and Mr. Fletcher have assumed is a great one, and if, with the considerable variation of collaboration which must attend the work, the matter can ever be put into a creditable shape, it will be owing to the skill of the editors."

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

JULY, 1878.

Communications for the JOURNAL, and all inquiries concerning it, should be addressed to MELVIL DEWEY, 33 Hawley Street, Boston. Also library catalogues, reports, regulations, sample blanks, and other library appliances.

Remittances and orders for subscriptions and advertisements should be addressed to F. LEVPOLDT, P. O. Box 4995, New York. Remittances should be made by draft on New York, P. O. order, or registered letter.

Exchanges and editors' copies should be addressed to THE LIBRARY JOURNAL, 33 Park Row, New York.

The JOURNAL addresses itself exclusively to library interests, admitting to its advertising as well as to its reading-matter columns only what concerns the librarian as librarian. It does not undertake to review books unless specially relating to library and bibliographical topics.

The Editors are not responsible for the views expressed in contributed articles or communications, nor always for the style of capitalization, etc., in signed articles.

Subscribers are entitled to advertise books wanted, or duplicates for sale and exchange, at the nominal rate of ten cents per line (regular rate, 25 cents); also to advertise for situations or assistance to the extent of five lines free of charge.

THE best news of the month is that the Co-operation Committee have decided to commence work on "The Coming Catalogue," and thus realize what has long been an ideal—a select catalogue, suitable to the purposes of the average library, including satisfactory annotations. Through the efforts of one of the most devoted friends of the library cause, a certain library has offered to take the whole of the first edition, and thus provide for the manufacturing cost. Another important enterprise is the Library Manual, embodying the results of the important co-operative work of the past two years.

MR. POOLE has elsewhere the last word in the symposium discussion, and "has his revenges" in making manifest the hidden sins of omission and commission of some of his critics. There may be some disappointment that he has not rather given more in detail his own views as to how far the friendly and practical suggestions of the more moderate symposiasts should be accepted for the new Index. For the imperfections and inconsistencies in the best existing catalogues are in fact the strongest arguments why new enterprises should be carefully planned in detail. The symposium, we may explain, came about because of the general and ardent interest in the Index, as a co-operative work of

great importance, and the general feeling that many imperfections in the old edition, not definitely recognized in Mr. Poole's draft of the Committee report, or in his subsequent statements, might be obviated by a critical discussion, which caused the conductors of the JOURNAL to invite contributions, representing various points of view, to the symposium. As Mr. Poole has chosen to identify the editorial discussions of the subject, it may be added that these columns endeavor to represent not personal idiosyncracies but the general tone of library opinion. The drift of the symposium discussion may suggest that in the matter of the Index the JOURNAL was not far wrong—but that is for our readers to judge.

THE Index Society is to be congratulated on the generosity of its friends, and the hint ought not to be lost on the American side of the Atlantic. Let us hope that the Association may before long receive from private individuals, in gifts or in legacies, the substantial indorsement which it merits. There are not a few wealthy friends of popular education who are giving liberally where they think their money will do most good. The Association need not fear comparison with any other educational movement, either in regard to the importance of its chosen lines of action or the manner in which the limited income at its disposal is expended. With officers and committees giving continued and valuable services without the slightest compensation, it is enabled to accomplish a great work with a small amount of money, and we have faith to believe that this work will not be allowed to fail for want of additional funds. The essential thing is to make people of means understand how, and why, and what the Association is doing. The future will then be perfectly safe. If each of the members and friends of the Association will take a little pains to make its objects and methods more widely known, it shall sooner or later have similar welcome news to send to fellow-workers across the sea.

THE proposed bibliographical section of the Manchester Literary Club will, we hope, be the pioneer of many similar local organizations in each country, which, while stimulating and promoting local library interest, each in its own field, and thus accomplishing much that the general body could not do, will support and strengthen the national associations. The prominent part which Mr. Axon will take in the

Manchester section is guarantee that it will be well done. A great city like Manchester, with its many libraries and literary people, ought certainly to sustain a bibliographical section of a large literary club. We shall look with interest to the reports of what this section does.

WHEN a college like Dartmouth finds it impossible to pay one person to manage its library alone, it is high time that its alumni took the subject into special consideration. There are many other colleges, in fact most colleges, that have not yet waked to the fact that no department needs more careful study and more faithful trained labor, and that no other department will yield so much fruit for the investment as the library. Those who appreciate this point should keep it prominent in season and out of season, till a board of trustees will no more think of making the librarianship an appendage to some chair of instruction than of giving the presidency to some student who needs work to help meet his expenses. It is bad enough when the librarian has sometimes to leave his work temporarily to give instruction to a class, but when the office is made merely an appendage to something else, what is to be expected from the library?

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE—NINTH REPORT.

Covering Paper.

Readers are requested to mail at once to the Co-operation Committee a list of the sizes which they find most convenient for covering paper. We propose to select from these lists a series of standard sizes, to have the best paper made expressly for library covers, and of a size to avoid the slightest waste in cutting up, and to furnish it at a low price to all libraries using paper covers. Many experiments have been tried to secure the best possible papers, both of a fine and very cheap quality, and it is believed that libraries may save trouble and expense by ordering their covers from the Supply Department. With the list of sizes sent in suggestions are also specially invited. All should be sent as soon as possible, as the report will be made up for the next issue of the JOURNAL.

Library Manual.

The number of requests for complete directions for organizing and carrying on small libraries has made it necessary to undertake a brief manual embodying the decisions and recom-

mendations of the Association. The committee will therefore rapidly consider the remaining questions, and recommend the best methods of which they can get knowledge. The secretary of the Association has undertaken to compile the manual, which will be carefully revised by the Committee, and those desiring can then get, in compact shape, complete directions for the details of organizing and administering a small library. Suggestions of any kind pertaining to the preparation of this manual will be gladly received by the secretary, Melvil Dewey, P. O. 260, Boston.

A. L. A. Catalog.

After long consideration the Committee see the way clear to attempting the first edition of a general co-operative catalogue. This will be by far the most important co-operative step yet taken, and valuable results are confidently expected from it. The details of the plan, substantially that advocated in the article on "The Coming Catalogue" (v. 1, p. 423), will be submitted for criticism and suggestion in an early JOURNAL. In accordance with the recommendation of the American Philological Association, at its annual meeting held this month, it has been decided to spell the title Catalog.

Width of Column for Catalogues.

Experiment, computation, and experience indicate that the width of column easiest grasped by the eye, and, all things considered, best adapted for library work, is 6 cm. This is the width adopted by the JOURNAL, *Publishers' Weekly*, Uniform Title Slip Committee, etc., and is more largely used than any other in magazines and catalogues. Uniformity in this respect will make certain co-operative measures now under consideration much more practicable. Several libraries, using slightly different columns, have expressed their intention of changing to the standard recommended, thus making plates, printed titles, etc., in one library easily available for others. As the eye of a trained reader reads whole lines at once, and thus passes down the column rapidly, the line must not be so long as to compel the eye to go back from the end of one line to find the beginning of the next. On the other hand the line must not be so short as to waste space and make extra expense in justifying to make syllables come out even with the line.

Index and Contents.

The question being submitted as to the proper place in the make-up of a book, it was agreed

that the contents, marking out the plan of the work, should precede it, and that the index, made as a key to the complete work, should be at the end.

Sunday-School and Private Libraries.

The question was submitted whether the Committee and Supply Department undertook matters pertaining to other than free public libraries. The wants of the different libraries overlap each other so much, and so much can be accomplished by guiding the growth and methods of all classes of libraries, that it was unanimously agreed that no distinction should be made by the committee. They will act upon all questions for all libraries, and through the Supply Department will furnish at the lowest practicable price every thing needed for the best administration of any library, large or small, public or private, school, sabbath-school, circulating or proprietary.

Carrying out this decision, labels for private and Sunday-school libraries have been put on the list, printed, trimmed, and ready gummed like postage stamps. A blank line is left to write in the special name of the S. S. or person. Per 100, 25 c.

Van Everen Letters.

So many libraries have occasion to use letters as well as figures on the backs of books, etc., that alphabets, gummed and perforated like postage stamps, are added to the list. Any letter desired can be instantly torn out of the sheet and firmly attached to any surface. There are three sizes, at 10, 15, and 20 c. per 100. Any special numbers or letters can be had to order at low rates. Those selected are the most used and best suited to library work.

CHARLES A. CUTTER,	} Committee.
FRED. B. PERKINS,	
FREDERICK JACKSON,	

UNITED KINGDOM ASSOCIATION.

FIFTH MONTHLY MEETING.

THE fifth monthly meeting was held at 8 P.M. on July 5th, at the London Institution. Present—Mr. B. R. Wheatley in the chair; Messrs. Bone, Brace, Frost, Knapman, H. B. Wheatley, and the Secretaries (H. R. Tedder and Ernest C. Thomas).

The American and foreign members of the Conference of last October, whose names were printed on p. 154 of the June JOURNAL, were elected Honorary Members of the Association.

After the formal business had been disposed

of, Mr. H. B. Wheatley read a paper on "Indexing," the substance of which will be shortly printed by the Index Society.

The meeting then adjourned.

COMMITTEE ON A GENERAL CATALOGUE OF ENGLISH LITERATURE.

The third meeting of this committee was held on July 5th, at 6.45 P.M., at the London Institution. Present—Mr. B. R. Wheatley in the chair; Mr. H. B. Wheatley, and the Secretaries.

Mr. Tedder, in introducing the question of titles, thought that though absolutely full titles were desirable, we must content ourselves with having them as full as possible.

Mr. B. R. Wheatley thought that full titles, even if possible, were not desirable. Many old titles it would be absurd to print at length, and even in modern times the length of a title was in inverse ratio to the size of the book, as in the case of pamphlets.

Mr. H. B. Wheatley thought that full titles may be desirable for special bibliographies, but not for a general catalogue. Moreover, the titles which in an actual book have the advantage of type and spacing are not so easily understood when printed in a catalogue.

Mr. Tedder then asked what rules are to be followed in cataloguing the titles—those of the British Museum, or those, for instance, of Mr. Cutter.

Mr. H. B. Wheatley thought we should settle rules for ourselves, preserving as much agreement as possible with established systems.

Mr. Tedder supposed we must follow the Museum and other catalogues, and not recatalogue from the books themselves. We ought to ask the Museum to print a catalogue of their English books, which would considerably lighten our labors.

Mr. Thomas thought it a mistake to print lists of books in a particular library. Catalogues should be made of literatures, not of libraries; and the Museum should be urged to incorporate the titles of the books they have not got, in their proposed list of their English books down to 1640. He proposed the following resolution:

"That the British Museum be urged to make their proposed list of English books to 1640 cover the whole literature of the period, and that the secretaries be instructed to communicate with the Museum authorities."

This was seconded by Mr. H. B. Wheatley and unanimously carried, after which the committee adjourned.

THE INDEX SOCIETY.

JUNE MEETING.

At a meeting of the committee, held at the Society of Arts on June 18, various questions relating to printing, binding, etc., were discussed, and it was decided that the publications should be printed on paper of a small quarto size, to range with the Camden Society's series, and be issued in cloth binding. It was reported that progress was being made with the Royalist Confiscation Acts, and that in order to facilitate reference the printed page had been divided into four portions marked respectively by the letters *a, b, c, d*, in the left-hand margin. The Index will be made by Miss Mabel Peacock, and an introduction by Mr. Edward Peacock will complete the volume, which will be of great value to all interested in the history of the commonwealth period.

Mr. Wheatley proposed to add to his pamphlet on indexes, which is now in hand, a preliminary list of indexes of the contents of books published separately in English. It is intended to prepare at a future time a full bibliography of indexes in all languages, and the assistance of those who can supply titles of such works (particularly such as are buried in journals and transactions of societies) is requested.

Mr. Gomme offered the committee an index to municipal corporation offices, drawn from the report of the Commissioners for England and Wales of 1835, by Mrs. Alice B. Gomme, which was accepted. A specimen of an Index to the Household books was submitted to the committee, and other indexes were suggested, such as a List of References to neglected Biography, more particularly of topographical writers, a Local Index of Engravings arranged according to counties, and indexes to Hutchins's History of Dorset, and Ruskin's Modern Painters. A design for a device to be placed on the title-page of the various indexes was submitted by Mr. Fenton, which was ordered to be engraved. It was resolved that certain of the society's publications should be sold to the public as well as distributed to the members.

JULY MEETING.

At a meeting of the committee it was announced that a donation of one hundred guineas had been received since the last meeting from one who is deeply interested in the promotion of the objects of the Society. The advisability of commencing the preparation of an index to

the *Gentleman's Magazine* was then discussed, and the hope was expressed that further assistance from other sources might be obtained for this important object. The opinion of the members was divided as to the best mode of proceeding with this work, and the questions whether the index should be produced as a whole, extending to several volumes, or whether it would not be better to issue it in such divisions as Biography, Topography, etc., were discussed. A third view expressed was that the value of the index would be increased if it were published in divisions and references on each subject were added from other journals of the same date.

The first part of Mr. H. B. Wheatley's "What is an Index? a few Notes on indexes and Indexers" was ordered for printing, and it was reported that four sheets of the Royalist Composition Acts were in type. The rules for indexing were again discussed, and it was decided to print them at the end of the pamphlet on indexes, with the following preliminary note: "These rules have been drawn up by the committee in order to obtain uniformity in the compilation of their indexes. They are not considered as final, and can be added to as occasion may require. In some few points the respective rules for cataloguing and for indexing are identical, but in the majority of instances the rules made for the former will not apply to the latter. Those who require rules for cataloguing should obtain the British Museum rules, Mr. Cutter's full rules (forming the second part of the Special Report on American Libraries), and the short rules drawn up by a Committee of the American Library Association." The committee then adjourned until October.

POOLE'S INDEX IN ENGLAND.

The chairman of the subcommittee of the U. K. Library Association issued in June the following printed circular, which was sent to all the members of the Association:

"POOLE'S INDEX TO PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

"LONDON LIBRARY,
12 ST. JAMES SQUARE, LONDON, S. W.,
4th June, 1878."

"SIR: The Subcommittee appointed by the Conference of Librarians to consider the question of co-operation in completing a new edition of the above-named work, has desired me

to ask your friendly assistance by kindly undertaking to index one or more of the periodicals named on the other side. Those marked with an asterisk have already been taken up. You will find the rules for indexing laid down by the American Committee in the printed volume of the 'Transactions of the Conference of Librarians,' pp. 199-206.

"I am, sir, your obedient servant,
"ROBT. HARRISON,
Chairman of Subcommittee."

Mr. Harrison, under date of June 29th, has sent to Mr. Poole a revised list on which some changes were made, and those which at the last date were assigned are marked with an asterisk. The following is the list revised, the place of publication (all being published at London except the *Calcutta Review*), and the abbreviations being omitted:

LIST OF PERIODICALS TO BE INDEXED IN ENGLAND.

Title.	Date.	Vols.
* Academy...	1872-77	12
* Archaeologia.....	1870-77	45
* Athenæum.....	1828-77	63
* Bentley's Quarterly.....	1859-60	2
* British Almanac, Companion to.....	1827-77	50
British Critic.....	1783-1843	102
* Builder.....	1843-77	35
Calcutta Review.....	1844-77	60
Christian Remembrancer...	1841-77	96
* Church Quarterly.....	1875-77	6
* Congregationalist.....	1872-77	6
Critic.....	1844-63	26
* Economist.....	1843-77	35
European Magazine.....	1782-1826	89
Examiner.....	1808-77	70
* Home and Foreign Review	1863-64	4
* Literary Gazette.....	1817-62	45
* London Magazine, 3d series	1820-27	29
* Mirror.....	1823-48	48
Nautical Magazine.....	1832-87	46
* Naval Chronicle (English)	1799-1818	40
* Nineteenth Century.....	1877	2
* Parthenon.....	1862-63	2
* Penny Magazine.....	1832-45	14
* Rambler.....	1848-62	29
* Reader.....	1863-67	7
* Register.....	1869	2
* Saturday Magazine.....	1232-44	25
* Saturday Review.....	1856-77	44
* Social Science Review.....	1862-66	8
* Spectator.....	1828-77	50

THE MILWAUKEE LIBRARY LAW.

THE Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library was opened to the public on the first of July, Mr. Joshua Stark being President of the Board of Trustees, and Mr. Henry Baetz Librarian. The Young Men's Association of Milwaukee transferred to the city its library of about 15,000 vols., on the condition that the city would assume its care and maintenance. The Legislature of Wisconsin authorized the transfer, and enacted a special law for the maintenance of the new organization. The law, in its main features, is the same as the general law of Illinois, but with several variations, which are noteworthy changes and one an obvious improvement. The first is in the selection and appointment of the board of nine trustees. Of this board, two (the president of the school board and superintendent of schools) are *ex officio* members. Four members are appointed from citizens at large (the four original members being named in the act), to hold office for four years, and their successors to be appointed by the board from the citizens at large. The three other members are aldermen, appointed by the city council, and holding office for three years, one going out each year.

Another and more important change is that the law vests in the board of trustees the authority of deciding the amount of tax which shall be levied for the support of the library, within the limit of one-fifth of a mill on the dollar valuation. The Illinois law places this power in the city council, who know more about paving and bridge-building than running libraries. The point has been discussed in the Library Association whether it was judicious to recommend the enactment of a State law fixing the amount of taxes to be levied for the support of libraries, which the city council could not change. Such a law passed five years ago, when business was active and values were inflated, would have fixed a rate of taxation which to-day, when all other expenses are reduced, might seem oppressive, and might raise a prejudice against the library. On the other hand, to fix the rate now would starve the library in the future. It is evident that there should be a power somewhere to adjust the rate of taxation to the exigencies of the times; and the special act for Milwaukee seems to have struck the happy mean in placing this power in the board of trustees.

But a most vicious feature has been inserted in the law, which will prove to be a root of per-

petual discord unless it be stricken out. In the Illinois law the directors have the exclusive control of the expenditure of the library fund, the appointment of librarian and employés, and of fixing their salaries. Under the Wisconsin law the trustees may appoint the librarian, but his salary is fixed by the council. The trustees may also "appoint assistants and employés and fix their compensation, subject to the approval of the council." A conflict arose at the first send-off in Milwaukee. The trustees appointed a librarian at a salary of \$1,500. The council fixed it at \$1,200. The trustees made appointments of assistants and other employés, and fixed their salaries. The council vetoed their action, and assumed the responsibility of prescribing the salaries of each. The real appointing power has thus been placed outside of the board of trustees.

The special act is so good otherwise that it ought to be re-enacted as a general law.

W. F. POOLE.

COMMUNICATIONS.

THE FICTION QUESTION AND SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARIES.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 25, 1878.

THE dissimilarity of the various associations represented in our own conference has frequently been forced upon my attention, and was again unfavorably suggested by reading, in a recent report of an Eastern librarian, that "it is unquestionably true that, by a careful selection of the most popular works of fiction, the circulation of any public library would be tripled or quadrupled. . . . This artificial stimulus, however, has not a single commendable feature, and would never be tolerated except in a subscription library."

Free from intent this undoubtedly is, but librarians who are in charge of subscription libraries can hardly fail to feel the misfortune (?) that has placed them there to pander thus freely to the common, *novel* instincts of human nature, with hands tied, since payment for the service comes out of the individual pocket instead of the public treasury. To such the librarian of a public library, in his independence of administration, is, indeed, an object of envy. While the patron of the public library must accept whatever the management deems fit to supply, the subscriber, in *his* institution, is, in fact, a power, and he expects and insists that *pabulum* of his own choosing shall be furnished, and that

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in quantities to suit, or he withdraws his name, which, in this connection, means his *support*. He must be guided, if at all, with a loose rein. Fines for detention of books cannot be insisted upon; damages for injury to works must be assessed with great discretion. In view of these and many similar facts with which your readers are, perhaps, too familiar, are the managements of subscription libraries so culpable in their lavish purchases of fiction? Are their librarians wasting their energies and their lives, with *motives* beyond question, in a mistaken use of *means* which "has not a single commendable feature"?

But I think statistics of the two classes of libraries mentioned hardly lead one to the conclusion stated. I fail to see that very *startling* results have been reached in our great public libraries, in spite of the controlling influence they are enabled to exert over this class of reading, more especially if no other means more effectual have been resorted to.

Perhaps in some future number of the JOURNAL some librarian will suggest some other means as effectual in retaining subscribers as a plentiful supply of popular literature, that managers and librarians may persevere in their worthy efforts, no longer subject to so unpleasant an imputation.

ALFRED E. WHITAKER.

THE ATHENÆUM CATALOGUE.

BOSTON ATHENÆUM, July 31, 1878.

MR. POOLE in his article on the symposium has fallen into the natural mistake of supposing that the catalogue of the Boston Athenæum represents my ideas of a perfect catalogue. I would let this pass, were it not that numerous kindly letters received from readers of the "Special report" appear to indicate that a similar misapprehension is general; so that it may be well now to make a brief correction. Circumstances which will be stated in the proper place, but would take altogether too long to explain here, have made it extremely difficult to carry out my own views entirely therein, and consequently it does not correspond to, and is not to be taken as an example of, the "Rules for a dictionary catalogue," nor can any inference of what I should consider the best disposition of headings and references for the index be drawn from the Athenæum practice. But my experience of the difficulty of completing and revising a catalogue, compiled in large part by another, only as it passes through the press, in-

stead of preparing it beforehand systematically, gave force to the desire that the index should start with as definite a plan as possible.

C: A. CUTTER.

BOOK SUPPORTS.

THE wooden book-supports have one superiority over the iron—they can be labelled on the edge. In two places I have been obliged by want of room to divide a shelf between two subjects, a thing always to be avoided. I found it convenient to make the division by a wooden support labelled thus:



C: A. C.

[Either the wooden or patent iron support is very much better than any of the old devices. They are cheaper, more convenient, and more effective. The wooden is the cheaper, and with the improved model now being made it will give the greatest satisfaction. It is, however, worthless, unless the books are kept at the front of the shelf. If they are pushed back, the weight coming on the long arm of the lever turns the support off the shelf. Books kept at the front edge look infinitely better than when pushed back; their titles can also be read much better. Those pushed back keep somewhat cleaner from dust, and it is a little easier to push a book against the back than to make it range evenly in front.

The iron support costs a trifle more, but the Supply Department have arranged to furnish it to libraries at half price, in lots of 100, at \$12.50 instead of \$25, and it is therefore very cheap. The more this is tried the better it is liked. One library, after trying 25 for a month, ordered 1000. The many different uses to which the iron support can be put make it an exceedingly desirable addition to every part of the library and work-rooms. From personal experience in their use, we strongly recommend them. Any subscriber to the JOURNAL is offered a 25 c. sample, free, on application to the secretary

of the Association. This offer shows the confidence of the makers that, once understood and tried, sales will surely result. Little devices of this kind, which save time and trouble, and preserve the books from injury, are good investments for the poorest libraries. M. D.]

COLORS GUIDE-BLOCKS.

IN connection with Mr. Foster's suggestion, p. 164, about different colors for catalogue cards, I would like to let you know of a somewhat similar idea which has been used in the catalogue at McGill, *i.e.*, colored guide-blocks to mark the different subjects and their divisions.

The names of the subjects are on guide-blocks covered with white paper; the principal divisions are on red blocks arranged alphabetically under the whites; the subdivisions on yellow arranged under the reds; and the fourth divisions are on the plain wooden blocks arranged under the yellow. Take as an example Natural Science and some of its divisions:

White Block.	Reds.	Yellows.	Wooden.
	Biology.	Botany.	
		Zoology.	Anthropology, Mollusca, Vertebrata, &c.
Nat: Science.	Geology.	&c.	&c.
	Phys.Geog.	&c.	&c.

I do not know whether this is in use elsewhere, and if not, it may be of help in a catalogue which is not divided up too minutely.

WM. McLENNAN,

McGill College Library, Montreal, Canada.

[I have never seen this application of colors, but it impresses me most favorably. Has any one else tried it, and with what result? It would seem to make plain at the most casual glance whether the head consulted were a main or only a subdivision, etc. The colors must be more distinct for this purpose than indentations or different-sized type and labels. M. D.]

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

EDITED BY CHARLES A. CUTLER.

1. NOTICES.

DE VINNE, THDR. L. The invention of printing: facts and opinions descriptive of early prints and playing cards, block-books of the 15th century, legend of Lourens Janszoon Coster, etc.; with fac-similes of early types and wood-cuts. N. Y., Fs. Hart & Co., 1876. [2d issue, 1878.] 556 p., por. and il., O.

As Americans we ought to be justly proud of this work, which satisfies all the conditions that the most acute scholar or critic might impose on one attempting to handle the subject of which it treats. The author, in a model preface, plainly states the want of such a treatise, the unsatisfactory condition of the history of the art, and the way in which he proposes to treat it so as to gratify printers as well as bibliographers. He is quite right in saying that these last have been its historiographers hitherto, but that, ignorant of its technical details, they have not fully appreciated the advantage of such knowledge when brought to bear on the study of *incunabula*.

That the progress of the art was gradual must be admitted, but the art itself was, most curiously, not used in recording the steps that led to the apparently sudden appearance of a complete printed Bible, about the year 1450. The fear that the advantages to be derived from the improved process might be lost if given publicity, made the earliest printers withhold and guard most jealously the methods that they used. No account has therefore been left to us of the honor due to each inventor of an improvement in printing, from the playing card to the Gutenberg Bible.

Mr. De Vinne, a practical printer and a clear-headed student, here steps in, and in a single volume, gives, step by step, an admirable *résumé* of the history of this wonderful invention, so fruitful of results, down to its practice by two rivals in one city, and the sack of that city, which dispersed the workmen and spread the art over all Europe in an incredibly short space of time.

The familiarity with the process itself gives additional value to *this* history, and may throw new light on the much disputed question, hitherto discussed without visible results, which European scholars have raised concerning the greatest of modern inventions. Like the discovery of America, the improvement of the

steam-engine, the applications of electricity, the spectroscope, and photography, printing was but the development of a series of attempts to supply a want of the time, or to verify ideas that had been long germinating in many minds.

The earliest writing in Egypt that we possess, dating to two thousand years before the Christian era, with deep black ink on thin papyrus, and with rubricated initials, looks like a production of the printing press, so regular are the letters and lines.* No doubt manuscripts like these were produced in abundance for thirty-four centuries, and it seems to us incredible that a method of duplicating them more rapidly had not occurred to some inventive genius. We can only suppose that the time was not ripe for such an art. Our author's suggestion that the ancients had no ink or paper fit for printing is begging the question, for these would have soon been supplied, as well as the movable types, if required by the spread of knowledge and the desire to record it in a cheap form.

There is no doubt that stencil printing and block-book printing led to the present marvels of the printer's art, but the ancients used stencils and stamps, parchment and paper. Were it not for the dark period which succeeded the downfall of the Roman Empire, when for six hundred years all learning and all the records of history and literature were at the mercy of a few ignorant monks, the call for cheap books might have placed the invention of printing at a much earlier period.

Be that as it may, we must heartily praise Mr. De Vinne for his systematic account of the origin of paper and of the early attempts to duplicate printed cards, prints, and texts. The first printing of the *Speculum salutis*, by printers now unknown, and the rapid progress of the art through a period covering probably less than half a century, is very well told and better set forth than ever before. The continued use of block books throughout the fifteenth century is explained; the legend which ascribed the first use of detached metallic letters to Laurens Coster, and the refutation of it, constitute chapters of the deepest interest. The illustrations, so liberally given and judiciously selected, add greatly to the value of the book, whose style is so plain and direct that it contrasts

* Three such works have been recently reproduced in facsimile, and may be seen in the Astor Library, New York, namely, Eisenlohr, *Mathematisches Handbuch der alten Egypter*; the Papyrus Ebers, a medical treatise; and the Hieratic papyrus published by the British Museum.

most favorably with several efforts of our own bibliographical writers when trying their hands on purely descriptive matter.

J. CARSON BREVOORT.

HAVERHILL PUB. LIB. Catalogue. Haverhill, press of F. P. Stiles, 1878. [2] + 1033 p. O.

A handsome catalogue, on the model of that of the Concord Pub. Lib. As this appears to be a favorite form, it may be worth while to say that it would be more economical with a narrower page; the lines are too long for this size of type and this degree of abbreviation, so that a very large part of the page remains blank. The notes also, as in so many popular catalogues, are extravagantly indented; but perhaps the wide page necessitates this; full lines of such fine type, unleaded, would be very hard to read. The proof-reading seems to be in essentials very carefully done. I have only noticed one mistake in names,—Prof. Ezra Abbot gets an extra t on p. 22, which, in these days of spelling reform, is especially deplorable. And while we are on typography I should like to ask what is the use of the italics in "Life of Lieut. Gen. Grant," "Career of Maj. Gen. Ormsby." Because in an elaborate catalogue it may be worth while, in headings, to distinguish the name of any author from his title it does not follow that titles of honor are to be italicized wherever they occur.

The catalogue is a modified dictionary. Under certain headings, like Mammalia, Mental Philosophy, Social Science, Physics, Theology, Zoology, a number of subjects are grouped. Under Mammalia, for instance, are Cetacea, Marsupials, Pachyderms, Primates (which, by the way, is made not to include, nor even to refer to, Man). This grouping has some advantages, but it confirms me in the belief that Mr. Poole will do well to remain true to the dictionary, and not to coquet with the systematic syren. It is not that this plan affords a chance for such oversights as referring from Immortality to the four titles on that subject under Theology, and not to the five titles on that subject under Mental and Metaphysical Science; but that such mixed schemes are very hard to explain to the public, so that they can use the catalogue intelligently. They must find it difficult to understand why one subject is subordinated and another independent; and end by getting into a most unsatisfactory and unproductive state of bewilderment. Why, for example, is Elephant not put under Mammalia,

while Camel is, and Horse is put under both Horse and Mammalia?

On looking back over this notice, I see that I have done nothing but find fault, and yet I think this to be an excellent catalogue, bearing evident traces of earnest endeavor and conscientious work. Mr. Capen and Miss DeBorges, who, he tells me, has done most of the work, have added a most serviceable assistant to their library, as the Haverhill people no doubt have already found out; and these objections are not intended to prove this catalogue not to be good, but to show how another might be better.

And as I look at it I am impressed more and more with the folly of our present way of doing things. I open the volume at random and find a half page filled with the "Contents" of Madison's Letters (Phila., 1867, 4 v.). Probably in every catalogue that has been published since 1867 that contents, verbatim et literatim the same, has been written out, set up, corrected, and printed, independently, no one profiting by his neighbor's work. And this is but one of hundreds of instances. Is there no way of stopping this enormous waste? C: A. C.

A. RECORD OF RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

a. Library economy, history, and reports.

ACAD. OF NAT. SCI. OF PHILA. Ann. reports, 1877. [Phila., 1878.] p. 322-391 of the Proceedings, with a special half-title.

Accessions, 849 v., 1839 pm., 10 maps, etc.

Le CABINET hist.; revue mensuelle cont. . .

le catalogue général des mss. que renferment les bibliothèques publ. de Paris et des départements touchant l'histoire de l'ancienne France, sous la dir. de M. U. Robert. 24^e année, 2^e sér., tome 2. 1878. Paris, A. Picard, 1878. O. 12 fr. a year, bi-monthly.

CHICAGO PUB. LIB. 6th ann. rep., June, 1878.

Chicago, 1878. 36 p. O.

Added, 7876 v., incl. 1332 given; losses, 186; issues, 354, 506; visits, about 705,000. Like most late library reports, this contains an earnest plea against cutting down the appropriations. The issues of fiction and juveniles is decreasing:—1874-5, 77.04 per cent; 1875-6, 68.5; 1876-7, 62.57; 1877-8, 59.83. Two causes are assigned: (1) "The mass of new readers first apply themselves to novel reading, and the more earnestly they engage in it the sooner they are satiated, and seek for more substantial reading. If new readers were not constantly coming in to keep up the demand for novels, the statistics would show a greater falling off than at present." (2) "The novel department has not been kept up and replenished as the other departments of the Library have been."

FRIENDS' FREE READING-ROOM AND LIBRARY.

Ann. report with catal. of new books. Germantown, Phila., 1878. 15 p. O.

Borrowers over 1000; visits to the library and reading-room, 18,974.

HARVARD COLL. Report of the Committee to visit the library, 1876-7. *n. l. p.* 14 p. O.

Includes Mr. Sibley's 22d and final ann. rep. Added, 3741 v. and 2270 pm.; total, about 164,000 v. and as many pm. (?) In preparing the new wing about 21,000 v. were placed in Boylston Hall. "There were some very valuable books, but the mass of them was considered so worthless as to be fit only to be ground up, since no person could possibly want them for any purpose whatever. We did not know how much they were used till we had to go to Boylston Hall every time one was wanted. 22 times in one day, often 15 or 16, and generally 5 or 6 times a day we had to go for them; proving that no book or pamphlet, except a duplicate, should be rejected or sold."

This is followed by a report, dated Aug. 4, 1877, of a sub-committee, C. C. Smith, C. A. Cutter, Justin Winsor, on (1) the relations of the central and departmental libraries, and (2), whether there is a disproportion of usefulness and cost in the catalogue of the central library at present. In regard to (1) the committee "claim that the University should have in effect one library, in order that its administration should be systematic, economical, prompt, and otherwise efficient. . . . Books of present interest and likely to be of more frequent use in any departmental library should be deposited in that library as long as such use exists or until later views or editions supersede them, when they should be gathered into the common receptacle of the central library."

In regard to (2) it is urged that "the catalogue, whether of authors or subjects, is a time-saving, labor-saving device, which a great library with a large circulation can no more dispense with than it can dispense with sufficient shelf-room, with book numbers, or with runners to get the books."

For if the Library furnishes no written guide to its subjects, inquiries will be made of the librarian and attendants; and they with much cudgelling of brain and turning over the leaves of antiquated bibliographies and of subject catalogues of other libraries, and subsequent searching of the author-catalogue to see if the books so discovered belong to this library, will at last give an incomplete answer to the inquirer. Result: loss of time to the reader, loss of time to the librarian, which the library must pay for. . . . But it is not solely on the ground of economy that we advocate the completion of a subject-catalogue. It is not merely because the Library, regarded as a machine, will work more lumberingly and at greater cost without this wheel. It is also because the Library, regarded as an educational institution, will often fail of its purpose without this professorship. . . . Receive students cordially, make the way easy for them, remove all possible obstacles when they first come, and they will come again; they will be caught by the love of self-acquired knowledge and independent inquiry, and get habits of study and investigation which they will never lose. For such a result no expense is too great, and such a result a good subject-catalogue may aid in producing year after year."

The question is then raised "whether it is well to retain the present mixed subject-catalogue, known as Prof. Abbott's, or to convert it into a dictionary-catalogue, or into a purely systematic catalogue." The answer is that "it seems inexpedient without further trial to make any radical alteration. . . . If it had been provided with proper con-

veniences from the beginning it never would have fallen into its present disfavor." It needs (1) labels, (2) guide-cards, (3) a brief printed explanation, (4) "and most important, a printed index, giving in one column, in alphabetical order, a list of all possible subjects, except names of persons and places, and in the opposite column the name, or, better still, the number of the classes under which they are to be found. If this were done, we ought never again to hear the complaint, 'I do not know where to look for anything at the College Library.' A glance at the index would show the most ignorant or the stupid person where to find what he wanted, just as if he were using a dictionary-catalogue. It would be in fact a dictionary index to a classed catalogue, and the College would have the advantage of both systems."

PEABODY INSTITUTE, Balt. 11th ann. report, June 1. Balt., 1878. 46 p. O.

Accessions, 1916 v.; total, 65,130; used, 46,935; periodicals taken, 165. The periodicals assigned to this library by Mr. Poole, 5 sets in 103 v., have been indexed.

ST. LOUIS PUBLIC SCHOOL LIB. Ann. rep., 1876-77. St. Louis, 1878. 59 p. O.

Accessions in 20 months, 8431 v.; total, 39,275; issues (library) 67,307, (home) 127,802; fiction and juveniles 62.4 per cent in 1877; members, 4395. There is an interesting "table comparing vols. bought, amount paid, etc.," by 10 libraries from which it appears that in 9 libraries the average ratio of amount expended for books to total expense was 20.3 per cent, the Worcester Free Public Library having the highest percentage, 33.9, which, however, is exceeded by the tenth library, the St. Louis Public School Library, which boasts of 34.5. The other libraries decrease in the following order: Cincinnati Pub. (32.3), Springfield, Mass. (30.4), [Boston Athenæum (24.9)], St. Louis Merc. (2 years, 24.1 and 24.6), Boston Pub. (18.6), San Francisco (11.8), Hartford Y. M. (11.2), Chicago Pub. (9.6), Cin. Y. M. (8.4).

Amateur librarians.—*Littell's liv. age*. June 1. 2½ p.The British Museum; [the annual statistics]. *Acad.*, May 18, 25. 2½ + 1½ col.

Visitors, 699,511; readers, 113,594.

The Conference of Librarians.—*Acad.*, May 25. 1 col.

A good-humored reply by R. Garnett to some criticism by E. C. Thomas on his paper on the classification of the British Museum; also a correction of a point of detail by C. H. Roberts. Mr. Thomas's rejoinder is in *Acad.*, June 1. 1 col.

Library thieves.—*New era*, Lancaster (Pa.), Apr. 15. ½ col.

"Even Webster's Unabridged has been hidden beneath the cloak of a visitor and carried off. Commonly, scarce and high-priced books are the ones most in favor with these literary rogues, but instances are on record where books that are to be had cheaply at the ordinary book stands also attract their attention. Nor is it always persons who are without reputation who commit these acts. Several years ago one of the oldest and most learned professors in a university at St. Petersburg was detected in a systematic pilfering, and several hundred valuable volumes were recovered. Some years ago the Mercantile Library of Philadelphia missed a number of valuable books from its shelves, and the theft was traced to a doctor in the most respectable rank of society and upwards of fifty volumes were recovered from him."

The phonograph as a revolutionist.—*Publishers' weekly*, May 4. 1 col.

"Is the day coming when all our bookstores and all our libraries will be filled with nothing but tin-foil, grooved with simple lines? This is what might be suggested to imaginative minds by the paper in the current *North American*, in which Mr. Edison describes his phonograph. He expects, with the development of this simple invention, that a book of 40,000 words, or over a hundred of the usual duodecimo pages, may be talked upon a single sheet of tin-foil, ten inches square and a little thicker than paper, and stowed away without the intervention of publisher, printer, or binder. . . . The latest development of civilization brings back our books and our libraries very close to the primeval fashion of the ancient Assyrians, whose books were graven on cylindrical bricks, and whose libraries were great repositories of brickbats."

Review of the Transactions of the London Conference; by Ernest C. Thomas.—*Acad.*, May 18. 2½ col.

See *Conference*, p. 195.

(FICTION IN LIBRARIES: an extract symposium.)

Causeries d'un bibliophile, [par] le baron A. Ernouf.—*Bul. du bibliophile*, Dec. 1877. 10½ p.

A laudatory résumé of v. 1 and the first nos. of v. 2 of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*. The "Bibliography" is noticed at length, and is called "un courrier bibliographique très étendu et très-bien fait;" but the writer points out "a slight inadvertence in the index to v. 1 in attributing to" the writer of the "Causeries" "the honor of founding, eighty years ago, the Bibliothèque du Dépôt de la Guerre. This would be an excellent example of a point we were lately maintaining, the longevity of book-lovers. But the truth is that the present writer has been confounded with his grandfather, General Ernouf, who created or rather reorganized that important library in 1798."

The article is well worth reading, if only to see ourselves as others see us. The French writer remarks that the first session of the Philadelphia Conference was entirely taken up with arranging the organization, that our "statuts" have the pompous title of Constitution, and that its articles show the characteristic taste of Americans for elections.

He is evidently by no means at one with our advocacy or sufferance of fiction. In reply to the argument from the general benefit of imaginative literature he says, "This is all very well, but Mr. Poole will not easily convince us that books like 'La femme de feu,' 'Mlle. Giraud,' 'L'assomoir,' which are eagerly read in America as masterpieces, can be useful educationally even for adults. And this leads to a graver question,—Since the establishment of public libraries in the United States has the morality of cities advanced or retrograded? Mr. Poole refrains from treating this delicate question." M. Ernouf seems to us not wholly to understand the state of the question in America. A large part of the eagerness with which almost all American librarians defend fiction comes from a reaction against the remains of Puritan prejudice, which would exclude from libraries all stories except *The Book of Ruth*, *Pilgrim's Progress*, and perhaps *The Shepherd of Salisbury Plain*. But many of those who oppose this extreme are by no means ready to go to the other. They do not maintain that all fiction is alike profitable to all persons; a number will even allow that novels like those instanced by M. Ernouf are not profitable to any one; perhaps most of them would exclude these three from their libraries. For every one draws the line some-

where. I have never met with the librarian who would allow the *Memoirs of Casanova*, or *Fanny*, or *Mlle. Maupin* to circulate freely. Even Dr. Coxe, who asked at the London Conference, "Are we not travelling out of our sphere and acting as *censores morum* when we have not the power? The librarian has no power to exclude this or that, according to his own views,"—even he lately, as was to be expected, refused to deliver to an Oxford student "The priest in confession," becoming thereby a *censor morum*. And American librarians, while thoroughly convinced of the propriety the utility, and the necessity of a supply of fiction, are eager to exclude the positively vicious, would be glad to furnish as little as possible of the inane, the stupid, and the vulgar, and are ready to adopt such means as may be suggested for substituting a more improving reading.

Novels in public libraries.—*N. Y. Tribune*, Apr. 5.

"Novels, being a distinct feature of literature, and also special records of public feelings and tastes, are well worthy of preservation. They indicate phases of culture, whether it be high or low. They preserve the memory of manners and of morals, and the colloquial peculiarities of the period to which they belong. As such, they are history—often, it is true, in a crude and undigested form, but history still. As such, they are of importance to all students of the past. If we would know what an English squire was in the last century, we must go to Fielding. If we would know what an English fine lady was seventy years ago, we must look into the novels of Miss Edgeworth. If we would know the English man of fashion of a later period, we must read Bulwer. If we would comprehend something of English middle life, who can give us better information than Miss Austen or Mr. Trollope? The novels of Dickens and Thackeray, like those of Fielding, or even of Smollett, have, of course, a distinct literary value, but they are also full of information, as every American reader knows, of a kind not to be obtained elsewhere. . . . Some complaint has been made of the character of the books furnished to the inmates of English hospitals—that they consist mainly of religious works, tracts, sermons, and discourses, the selection being left chiefly to the chaplains of the institutions. . . . We do not see why the tedium of the sick bed should be increased by books which it is next to impossible to read at all.

"The advice of Mr. Carlyle to a young man 'to read the book which he desired to read,' has wisdom in it. As a rule nobody can get much benefit from going mechanically through a volume which does not interest him. If public libraries are made up of books of a solid and serious turn exclusively—what are called useful books—they will be public merely in name."

Shylock in the public libraries [by G. W. Curtis].

—*Harper's magazine* "Easy Chair," July.

Strictly interpreted, the canon of this terrible Mentor, Mr. Cowell, would exclude from free public libraries not only Scott and Dickens and Thackeray and Fielding and Smollett, but it would turn out of doors Chaucer, Shakespeare, 'Don Quixote,' 'Robinson Crusoe,' 'The Pilgrim's Progress,' 'The Arabian Nights,' 'Gil Blas,' and a great multitude—the great multitude—of books that make literature, and are the delight of all readers. It is appalling to think of a free library robbed of these treasures, and of the consequent dismay of the public. Does Mr. Cowell imagine that those who could not find Dickens at call would take down the *Bridgewater Treatises* instead, and that if the tale of *Antar* were not obtainable the baffled seeker would turn to *Lockyer's Astronomy*? Does this witty man think to corner the public into 'useful reading,' and that if the

free library offered the alternative of Stubbs's Constitutional history or nothing, the disappointed and indignant applicant would long hesitate?

"The proposition is, in fact, nothing less astounding than the exclusion of works of imagination from public libraries. The creative imagination, which is the sublime distinction of man, is to have no representative in the library. Cyclopædias, with the lives of naughty novelists excised; and patent and agricultural reports; and polemics, and partisan histories, and science, technically so called—as if Miss Austen had no knowledge to impart—and philosophy, moral and 'natural,' and other; in fact, everything that cannot be called fiction is to be admitted. Imagination alone is to be the culprit fay and the excluded peri.

"And who is to decide? What is to be done when some austere member of the library board moves the exclusion of Shakespeare's comedies, under the rule? The timid colleague, still in thrall to the charms of genius, may plead that they are not novels. But the austere member will metaphorically floor him by demanding if they are true. 'I would merely ask my friend whether, to say nothing of the comedies, he conceives even the tragedy of "Hamlet" to be true? And if he holds that the words "Norway" and "England" have a historic sound, and bring it within the domain of actuality, I should like to hear from him whether the word "Athens" is to redeem the "Midsummer Night's Dream" from the imputation of unreality—yes, sir, of untruth? And are we to sow untruths broadcast in the public mind? Are we here to disseminate untruth, fiction—that is, falsehood? Heaven forbid! And I trust that no gentleman at this table will be cogened by the distinction that may be attempted between immoral and moral fiction. The rule recognizes no such sophistry. Would anybody in his senses propose to admit immoral fiction to these shelves? Certainly not, sir? It is not immoral fiction, but fiction that the rule proscribes. And if "All's Well that Ends Well," and the "Midsummer Night's Dream," and "As You Like It," and other such pieces, are not as fictitious as Mr. Thackeray's "Vanity Fair," or Miss Sedgwick's "Hope Leslie," I should like to know why they are not? But if they are, in the truest sense, fictitious, I should like to ask my friend whether the rule does not expressly exclude works of fiction?"

"My friend" would plainly be silenced. He would doubtless see what was coming next, what the logic of the position inexorably required. But dire extremity might sharpen his wits, and in a happy moment of inspiration he might spring to his feet and move to exclude from the shelves certain parts of Herodotus, Thucydides, and other historians as fiction; and as those parts could be excluded only by banishing the present editions of the works, that those editions be banished, and the works be not readmitted until purged of fiction. The austere member would demand an explanation, and 'my friend' could point triumphantly to the speeches in Thucydides and the fables in Herodotus and the interviews and conversations in Motley, and hold impregnable that Thackeray had just as much right to put speeches into the mouth of General Wolfe, as Thucydides to put them into the mouth of Pericles; and consequently that Thackeray's "Virginians" must be restored or Thucydides's history be excluded. 'If it is to be a pound of flesh,' we can imagine him saying, 'let it be just a pound, neither more nor less. If fiction is to go, let it go entirely, and whatever is tainted with fiction shall suffer. Nay, sir, since human faculties are necessarily imperfect and confessedly of progressive development, and since we know that the gravest statements and theories of science at any period have been shown to be inadequate and incorrect by further knowledge, the presumption is against all assertions in the

scientific books upon our shelves, and I move their exclusion as in great part fictitious.'

"This desolating debate, it is to be hoped, will not arise. If fiction is to be weeded out of libraries, where shall we begin, and where shall we end? The exclusion of foolish and improper books is very feasible. But it is not necessary to burn the house down in order to roast the pig."

The use of fiction in public libraries.—*Providence press*, Apr. 29.

"There is no inherent reason why a reader should not pass, by successive steps, from fiction to the highest culture the library affords. This has been observed in repeated individual instances. Yet in the same libraries the issues still remain high because there are still those who are beginning at the foot of the ladder. A library may be well satisfied if its use of fiction is habitual. Not so an individual. Should he find that he is likely to become an habitual reader he should by all means apply himself to the scientific study of some scientific department, as a mental discipline."

B. Library catalogues.

BOSTON PUB. LIB. List of mathematical works recently added to the Bowditch collection. May, 1878. Boston, 1878. 8 p. Q.

BOSTON PUB. LIB. Catalogue of the Jamaica Plain Branch. 1st ed. Apr. 1878. Boston, 1878. 124 p. I. O.

In the *Acad.*, May 18, is a notice (probably by Mr. Claude Delaval Cobham) of Mr. J. L. Whitney's forthcoming catalogue of the Ticknor collection of Spanish books.

BRITISH MUSEUM. Catalogue of the Ethiopic mss. acquired since 1847; by W. Wright. [London], 1877. l. O. 33.2 x 25.7 cm. 13 + [1] + 366 p. 13 pl.

GUARDIAN LENDING LIB. [Catalogue, by W. H. Jones.] n. p., Jan. 1878. 8 p. sm. Q. Established Jan. 1875, by the Proprietors, for all engaged on the "Manchester guardian." Title-a-line. Five classes. —W; E. A. A.

HARVARD COLLEGE LIB. Bulletin no. 8. June 1. Camb., 1878. p. 125-168. O.

The suppl. contains notes on 'The Pilgrims at Plymouth' by J. W., 'Botany' by G. L. G., 'Thomas a Becket' by J. W., 'References in analytic geometry' by J. M. Peirce, the commencement of a 'Calendar of the Lee mss.,' and continuations of the Michel Angelo bibliog. and the Sumner collection.

LEEDS PUB. LIB. Catalogue of the 20,000 v. in the central lending library. 12th thous. Leeds, May, 1878. 281 p. D.

Fills some spare pages with "Some opinions of the value of good books," and articles from the London *Times*, Jan. 4, on libraries and fiction, and from the London *Daily news*, Feb. 25, on libraries.

LIB. CO. OF PHILA. July, 1878, bulletin, n. s., no. 1. Books added since Jan. n. t. p. 33 p. O.

Contains a few brief notes, the Rules (which have the quaint tone of the Quaker city in the last century), a report

of the meeting of the Lib. Co., May 6, when a report was made on the Ridgway Branch, and a notice of an arrangement made with the Dist. Telegraph Co. for delivering books at residences.

MANCHESTER FREE PUB. LIB. Index-catalogue of the Hulme Lending Library. 3d ed. comp. the latest add. Manchester, Cornish, 1878. 8 + 189 p. 8°.

Catalogue des livres . . . de M. L. N. MEILLUR. Marseille, Lebon, 1878. 8°.

943 nos. The catalogue of a Provençal library collected by a workman. Reveals, says the *Polybiblion*, some pseudonyms and anonyms not to be found in Barbier and Quérard.

Mr. Stevens has finished his catalogue of American books in the British Museum up to 1857. The volume was begun at the suggestion of Sir (then Mr.) Antonio Panizzi.

c. Bibliography.

[CHADWICK, Jas. R.] Index of gynecological and obstetric literature of all countries, July 1.-Jan. 1, 1877. *n. l. p.* 23 p. O.

Prepared for the Trans. of the Amer. Gynecol. Soc. v. 2 and to be continued in succeeding vols. Following the good example of Dr. Billings, Dr. Chadwick successfully uses the extreme abbreviations a (alla, auf, aus, aux), d. (das, degli, del, der, des, die), f. (für, for, für), h. (het), j. (jornal, journal), k. (königlich, koninklijke), kk. (kaiserlich-königlich), n. (neue, new, nouveau, nuova, nya), o. (och, oder), q. (quarterly), r. (reale), t. (ter, til, tot), u. (und), ü. (über), v. (van, von, voor, vor), z. (zur). But why not abbreviate where abbreviations would save more? Why write in full observations, chirurg(icals), méd(icales), weib(ichen), electr(ischen), comp(renant), (a series of) colored plates, gynäk(ologischen)?

Le CONSEILLER du bibliophile; pub. destinée aux amateurs de livres rares et curieux et de belles éditions; directeur, M. C. Grellet, Paris, April, 1876-June, 1877. 17 nos. Plates and fac-similes. 30r.

"Published monthly, and printed on vellum paper. This important publication came to an abrupt termination by the death (Sept. 27, 1877) of its proprietor, editor, and chief contributor, M. Grellet; but it has been followed by a journal on almost the same plan, and printed with even more typographical splendor, *Le moniteur du bibliophile*, of which the first number was published March 1, 1878."

F-1, P-s. Index librorum prohibitorum: notes bio-biblio-iconographical and critical on curious and uncommon books. Privately printed, 1878. 76 + 542 p. 4°.

FRANKLIN, Alfr. Les sources de l'histoire de France; notices bibliog. et analyt. des inventaires et des recueils de documents rel. à l'hist. de France. Paris, Firmin-Didot, 1878. 17 + 685 p. 8°. 24 fr.

FRIEDERICI, K: Bibliotheca orientalis; Liste der im J. 1877 in Deutschland, Frankr.,

Eng. u. d. Colonien ersch. Bücher, Broschüren, Zeitschriften, etc. üb. die Sprachen, Religionen, Antiquitäten, Literaturen, Geschichte u. Geographie d. Ostens. [2. Jahrg.] Leipzig, O. Schulze. 1878. 4 + 92 p. O. 2.50 m.

"His plan is to note every book or article in a periodical or annual report, bearing on the subject in the most remote degree, and to enter it under the proper head of Philology, Archaeology, &c. As he has access to good materials, his work is excellent, and is got up in first-rate style with an index to names of authors. If he is permitted to carry on this work for ten years, and, at the close of that period supplies a decennial index, students and scholars will indeed bless him."

GEORGE, Léon de. La maison Plantin à Anvers. 2^e éd., augm. d'une list. chronol. des ouvrages imprimés par Plantin à Anvers de 1555 à 1589. Brux., Gay & Doucé, 1878. 3 + 196 p. 8°. 7 fr.

KERL, Prof. Bruno. Repertorium d. techn. Lit. N. Folge. Jahrg. 1876. Lpz., Felix, 1877. 8 + 210 p. 7 fr. 50.

MARYLAND HIST. SOC. Publications, 1844-78. *n. p., n. d.* 8 p. O.

SMITH, J: Russell. A catalogue of 10,000 tracts and pamphlets, and 50,000 prints and drawings, illustr. the topog. and antiquities of England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, col. during the last 35 years by the late W: Upcott and J: R. Smith; for sale by A: R. Smith. London, 1878. 1200 p. O. 10r. 6d.

SPRINGER, Rob. Wegweiser in d. vegetariarischen Literatur. Nordhausen, 1878. 78 p. 16°. .60 m.

Bibliographie; [par] Alkan aîné.—*Bibliog. de la France, chron.*, 11-18, 25 mai. 4½ + 3½ col.

Notices Rouveyres "Connaissances," Drujon's "Catalogue des ouvrages condamnés," Uzanne's "Caprices d'un bibliophile," and the "Miscellanees bibliographiques."

Literature of spelling reform.—*Bul. of the Sp. Ref. Assoc.*, Boston, Apr.

Includes articles in periodicals.

UZANNE, Oct. Caprices d'un bibliophile. Paris, E. Rouveyre, 1878. [1] + 4 + 146 + [4] p. D.

The essay called "Les catalogueurs" must not be taken for a treatise on the noble art of cataloguing. It is a pleasant account of those bibliomaniacs who collect with a view to having a remarkable catalogue at their sale. M. Uzanne has a respect unusual among professed bibliophiles for the contents of his books; but he apparently includes in his collections a class of books not approved by the Anglo-Saxon mind.

The Hungarian Academy of Sciences is about to publish the Early Hungarian bibliography of Prof. K: Szabo.

PSEUDONYMS AND ANONYMS.

EDITED BY JAMES L. WHITNEY.

This department of the JOURNAL will contain the latest discoveries in regard to the authors of anonymous and pseudonymous books. Contributions are invited from all interested in making this list as complete and valuable as possible.

PSEUDONYMS.

Andreas Memor.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* (April 18) states that under this *nom de plume* the Duc de Gramont has published a reply to the "Alliances of the Empire in 1869 and 1870," by Prince Napoleon.—*W; E. A. A.*

Enotrio Romano.—The third edition of the poems of Giosuè Carducci has recently been published at Florence, with a biography of the poet by Adolfo Borgognoni.

Lake-Elbe.—The author of "A glance at the old world, in which are set forth certain missing links of the Darwinian chain" (Edinburgh, 1878) is Archibald Bleloch.

Rusticus has published (Paris, 1878) "Le centenaire du Grand Voltaire."

L. B. T.—"Autograph poems."—Lawrence Buckley Thomas.

Ter-Tisanthrope.—"The origin of evil: a celestial drama" (London, 1873).—William Honyman Gillespie.

Justine Vane.—"Justine's lovers" (New York, 1878) is published anonymously by an author who has adopted the above pseudonym.

ANONYMOUS WORKS.

Anglicans of the day (pamphlet, London, 1875).—Thomas Marshall.

Benoni Blake, M.D., Surgeon at Glenaldie (London, 1871).—Malcolm Maclellan.

Blindpits, and Quixstar, novels published at Edinburgh in 1868 and 1873 are by Miss Elizabeth Taylor.

Cheerfulness, a poem (Edinburgh, 1875), is by C. P. Gibson, Secretary of the Scottish widows' fund, Leeds.

Esther, a drama (Lond., 1873).—A. W. Buchan.

A hand-book on gold and silver. By an Indian official (London, 1878).—R. H. Hollingbery.—*Examiner.*

Mrs. Fitzlebury's new girl. By De Cordova (N. Y., 1878).—R. J. De Cordova.

The foster brothers (London, 1859). The author is James Payn, the novelist.—*Notes and Queries.*

VOL. III., No. 5.

The nabob at home; or, the return to England. By the author of Life in India. (London, 1842; New York, 1854).—Mrs. Monkland.—*Advocates' Library.*

Nimpoit (Wayside Series, Boston, 1877). Edwin Lasseter Bynner.—*Boston Daily Advertiser.*

Political portraits. Characters of some of our public men. Reprinted from the Daily News (London, 1873).—F. H. Hill.

Protestant journalism, by the author of "My clerical friends" (London, 1874).—Thomas Marshall.

Scenes and sketches in legal life. By a member of the College of Justice (London and Edinburgh, 1876).—William Spink, S.S.C.

The JOURNAL is indebted to Mr. James T. Clark, Librarian of the Advocates' Library, for a large part of the preceding list.

NOTES.

Miss Martineau's work, mentioned in the last number of the JOURNAL, is entitled, "The sickness and health of the people of Bleburn."

Olphar Hamst enters a complaint in the *Athenæum* (June 8) against the editor of Whitaker's "Reference catalogue of current literature" for 1877, stating that in his "List of pen names" he has appropriated such portions of the Handbook of fictitious names as suited his purpose, being, in fact, the greater part of his list, without the slightest acknowledgment.

Anna L. Ward, of Bloomington, New Jersey, and Yohn Brothers, of Indianapolis, announce that they are preparing lists of pseudonyms for publication. The lists heretofore published in the United States are incomplete and contain many errors, and it is not likely that this work will be properly done until there is some concert of action upon the subject among librarians.

Who wrote "A Retrospect of the Boston Tea Party, with a Memoir of Geo. R. T. Hewes. . . . By a citizen of New York" (N. Y., 1834, published by S. S. Bliss and copyrighted by James Hawkes)?

Who wrote "Traits of the Tea Party, being a memoir of Geo. R. T. Hewes [etc.], by a Bostonian. N. Y., 1835"? J. E.

The first was probably written by James Hawkes. Benjamin Bussey Thatcher was the author of the second.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Readers are requested to send in answers or corrections of unsatisfactory answers given to any queries. Suggestions based on actual experience will be specially welcome. Note the worthless as carefully as the valuable, and thus avoid waste of time and money in trying what will be surely and speedily abandoned.

NOTES.

LIBRARY EXCHANGES.—Many libraries have many copies of some of their own publications, catalogues, etc., that they would be glad to exchange for similar works, or sometimes to place in libraries where they would be preserved and be of more use than where stored away. A promising plan for a general Library Exchange of duplicates, etc., has been kept back for the action of the Committee on Duplicates appointed in New York. That plan will require space and time, and cannot be undertaken by the JOURNAL or Co-operation Committee at present. In the meantime something may be done if the libraries announce through the JOURNAL what they wish to exchange or to give under certain conditions. For the sale and purchase of books of this kind the Accommodation Department (see p. 85 of April JOURNAL and current numbers of *Publishers' Weekly*) offers the cheapest and safest medium. Exchanges may be brought about in the same way, and until a general duplicate clearing-house can be established this medium should be used. Any plan that converts books, worse than useless, because they must be stored and cared for when never used, into cash or desirable books, is worthy the most careful attention of every librarian. The American Antiquarian Society has sent to the Boston office fifteen copies of its catalogue of 1837, an octavo of nearly 600 pages, but, unfortunately, not bound. This can be had by any library wishing to exchange, by calling at the office, ordering by express, or sending postage, 15 cents.

BROADSIDE BULLETINS.—The Boston Public is issuing a new form of Bulletin, No. 2 being the first three months of '78. It is on a large white sheet, about 50 cm. square, headed in heavy-faced large caps, "New Books in the Lower Hall and Branches of the Boston Public Library." The titles are divided into fiction, history, biography, travels, juveniles, and miscellaneous, and are very brief, some only single words like *Seola*, *Harold*, *Good Cheer*, *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, etc. These are posted up in each library room, with the proper call numbers written in after each. The broadside is made

by leading out very widely the type used for other purposes. The effect would be much better could the type be of a more appropriate size for broadsides.

EMBOSSING STAMP FOR COVERS.—At Liverpool the American delegation to the Conference found a new application of the embossing stamp, which met with general approval. It was a heavy press, with an oval die about as large as the side of a small 32" book would hold. On this die, in large full-faced letters, were the words, "Liverpool Free Public Library." The cover of each book was placed in the press, and the powerful leverage made it only the work of a moment to stamp these words in raised letters on the board side of the book. Thus embossed they were distinct and still did not offend the eye. They were put on very quickly, and still could not be removed. Mr. Cowell has kindly made inquiries of the present cost of such a press and die, and reports it to be £11 5s., or about \$56.

PRINTED TITLE SLIPS.—*Psyche*, the organ of the Cambridge Entomological Club, has commenced issuing title slips according to the recommendation of the Committee (p. 113-5). As the Committee has not yet made any request to publishers, this is specially gratifying, and we believe the honor of first issuing these slips must be given to the enterprising editors of *Psyche*. This begins, as was hoped, the careful cataloguing of books on special subjects by competent specialists. It is hoped that equally competent hands will take up other subjects and furnish libraries with printed titles which can be relied on both from the librarian's and specialist's stand-point. Of the slips the circular says: "To obtain these printed slips, orders must be in the hands of the subscribers within two weeks of the date of issue of the numero of *Psyche Advertiser* which contains them, as only the number subscribed for will be printed. Parts of sets will be sent, in any desired number, at one cent per card (or extra copies at half a cent each to subscribers for full sets), if ordered promptly as above stated. Sample title cards sent on receipt of stamp. Address,

EDITORS OF *PSYCHE*, Cambridge, Mass."

PROGRESS OF CO-OPERATION.—The Boston Athenæum has proposed to the Worcester Public Library that the latter should join it in the publication of its annotated list of additions, a separate edition to be printed for the Worcester Library, in which titles and notes of works pos-

sessed only by the Athenæum shall be omitted, and titles of works possessed only by the Worcester Library shall be added. Each library will pay for the paper and press-work of its own edition, and for all the titles and notes peculiar to itself, but the two libraries will share the composition of the matter which is common to the two editions. As the libraries buy nearly the same books, it is thought that the saving will be considerable, and the Worcester Library will have the additional advantage of having an *annotated* list of additions, which it has not hitherto had. The trustees have the matter still under consideration.

GENERAL NOTES.

UNITED STATES.

IOWA STATE LIBRARY.—Mrs. Ada North, for the last eight years the efficient head of the State Library, has been superseded by Mrs. Col. Maxwell. Mrs. North has won the highest opinions from those acquainted with the library, and has shown an unusual fitness for the position. A most flattering testimonial was tendered her by a number of prominent officials, and judging from such data as we have, the regret at her leaving is general. Her successor is highly spoken of, but has, we believe, no library experience, and it will be something most remarkable if she is soon able to fill the place as acceptably as Mrs. North. The latter remains in Des Moines, and offers her services to the bar in investigating legal authorities. Largely through her efforts the State collection has been made the best law library west of Pennsylvania, and the judges testify that she is thoroughly familiar with its contents. Thus she takes up the "new profession," for which there has been only approval. She will be able to make needed references, etc., much quicker and cheaper than any one less familiar with the library, and for those at a distance a double saving will be effected. We hope Mrs. Maxwell will afford us another example of a State library well managed by an American woman.

NEWBERRY LIBRARY, CHICAGO.—The Newberry will case, involving the distribution of four million dollars, half of which is to be devoted to the establishment of a public library in the North division of Chicago, was decided in the Supreme Court of Illinois, at the June term, against the division of the estate before the death of the testator's widow; and hence the organization of what will be the best endowed library in the West, or in this country, is postponed till that event occurs. The case was

tried in the Circuit Court of Chicago a year ago, and decided in favor of the immediate distribution of the estate, which decision is now overruled and reversed by the Supreme Court.

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE.—Added in past college year 700 v. and 130 pam. Drawn (not counting reference books used without call slips), 20,500 v. Of these 5000 v. were for use in the library. Entries in card catalogue 3000. Open 33 hours per week. The librarian, C. W. Scott, class of '74, has resigned, and entered upon the study of law, much to the regret of those who have observed his deep interest in library work. As a matter of economy the librarianship has been combined with the professorship of French.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.—The total issues to date are nearly ten million v. The grand total of v. has now reached 348,842. Feb. 23, '78, is marked as the day of largest issue ever known to nine of the ten libraries (branches). In June, 1860 of the less-used books of the Lower Hall were put on the shelves without paper covers. An interesting experiment is thus being tried. The Ticknor Catalogue is printed to S, 345 p. The bindery has been enlarged by the city Committee on Public Buildings.

YALE COLLEGE.—Additions for year just ended were larger than usual. Purchases, 3550 v.; gifts, 2500 v. and 1000 pam.; Linonian and Brothers library, 750 v. Hon. W. W. Phelps has assigned the Phelps fund (\$3500 annually) for another term of five years.

GEORGE W. CHILDS, of Philadelphia, announces his intention to present a building to the citizens of Long Branch for a public library and museum.

HON. ASA PACKER has given a library, valued at \$100,000, to the Lehigh University of Bethlehem, Pa.

GREAT BRITAIN.

OXFORD CONFERENCE.—From a private letter from Mr. Tedder, one of the Secretaries of the London Conference and the U. K. Association, we extract the following, and hope some of the nation of travellers specially interested may be at Oxford:

"I hope you will be able to induce our American friends to visit us in the autumn. Our annual gathering is to be at Oxford, the home of learning and libraries, and we are sure of an interesting meeting, which will last about three days in the first week of October. Our American colleagues had so much to do with the success of the London Conference that we shall miss them at Oxford. However, I trust

we may have some representatives; the Paris Exhibition is likely to draw some to Europe, and we hope to catch them on their return home. I am anxious to put before the meeting the question of a party to the States in the autumn of 1879. Any suggestions you could make will be thankfully received."

LONDON CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.—We have just received a letter from B. F. Stevens, of the Chiswick Press, stating that since publication the price of the volume of Transactions and Proceedings has been raised to 28s. We are glad to learn from him that only a few copies remain in stock, and advise those wishing to secure the book to send early orders. Typographically, it is certainly one of the handsomest of modern books, and reflects the greatest credit on the Press, which produced it at its own risk. The edition being so limited, it may be hoped that copies will command a premium before many years. See p. 103 and 140 for description.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN LONDON.—We regret to say that the first battle of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Committee has resulted in a defeat. A poll of the ratepayers of Hackney, as to whether they were in favor of the Free Libraries Act being put into operation in that parish, or were opposed to it, took place June 21st. The result was that 631 votes were given in favor of the proposal, and 4389 against it. There are 24,000 persons in the parish qualified to vote. It is said that the result was obtained by disseminating throughout the parish the utter falsehood that Mr. Mundella was going to propose in Parliament to raise the rate to 3d., and by intimidation and treating of the compound householders by their landlords, who brought them up to the poll in cars and wagons. The Kensington ratepayers, July 5, in public meeting, refused to adopt the Act by 97 to 83. No poll was demanded. The Whitechapel trustees have resolved that it is expedient to adopt the Act for Whitechapel, and the decision of the ratepayers will soon be taken.

MANCHESTER BIBLIOGRAPHICAL ASSOCIATION.—The Literary Club, of which Mr. Axon is secretary, has issued a circular stating that "in view of the increasing importance of Bibliography, it is proposed to form a section of the Manchester Literary Club, to consist of such of its members as are specially interested in the subject, and also of librarians and others, not members of the club, who may wish to aid in the work which the section is designed to accomplish. It is hoped that the section will serve

for the district the purposes which the Library Association has undertaken for the country generally, as well as others not apparently contemplated by that organization. Among the objects may be included:

(1), The preparation and reading of papers on library management and administration; (2), the compilation of local and special bibliographies; (3), the collection for reference of booklists, catalogues, and bibliographies, many of which are either too expensive for private and individual purchase, or need for their acquirement the existence of a wide-spread organization and of co operative effort; (4), the promotion of addresses on systematic reading and methods of study in connection with free public libraries; (5), the promotion of the establishment of free libraries in towns where the Act has not yet been adopted; (6), arrangements for the supply of library materials and apparatus at reduced cost to the members, and the institutions with which they may be connected. The subscription to the section for members of the club will be nominal. For non-members, an annual subscription of five shillings a year is suggested."

FRANCE.

NATIONAL LIBRARY.—This library has lately acquired 28 Latin mss., 16 earlier than the 13th century. A Life of Saints is dated 992 A.D. M. Delisle points out their value for the ecclesiastical history of France and Spain, as well as for Latin philology and palæography. These mss. come from St. Sebastian or from St. Dominico de Silos, an abbey in the neighborhood of Burgos. One contains a catalogue of more than a hundred books, including a Salust, Statius's "Thebais," and Orosius's History, belonging to Silos, in the 13th century.

TROYES LIBRARY.—The library has been the victim of embezzlements which obliged it to be closed and reorganized. The report lately issued places the number of printed volumes at 60,000, and mss. at 2650. The printed catalogue began to appear in 1875; 4 v. of the section Histoire have been issued, comprising 10,087 nos. As the library income is very small (9200 fr.) the committee urge that one of the two copyright copies now sent to Paris should be deposited in the library of the department in which the book is published, which would give the Troyes library a copy of all books published in the Department de l'Aube. A similar wish in regard to the State libraries was expressed in the American Government Library Report.

MR. EMERSON'S NEW LECTURE.

FORTUNE OF THE REPUBLIC.

A Lecture delivered at the Old South Church, Boston, March 30, 1878. By Ralph Waldo Emerson.
16mo, paper, 25 cents; cloth, 50 cents.

This lecture is one of the most notable utterances of Mr. Emerson, and gives fresh evidence that he "deserves well of the Republic." It should be carefully read and digested by every good citizen.

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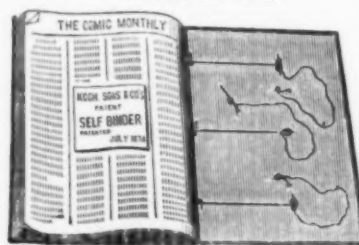
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